GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:361
ANSWERED ON:19.07.2016
Protection of Environment
Karunakaran Shri P.

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has taken fresh steps to increase the forest area and for the protection of environment;
(b) if so, the details thereof indicating the increase in forest area through new afforestation being carried out in the country;
(c) the funds allocated and sanctioned for environment protection and afforestation during each of the last three years and the current year, State/UT-wise; and
(d) the details of the funds utilized so far for the said purpose, State/UT-wise?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI ANIL MADHAV DAVE)

(a) to (d)The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) is implementing three major forest related schemes for protection of environment and afforestation i.e. National Afforestation Programme (NAP) scheme, National Mission for a Green India (GIM) and Intensification of Forest Management Scheme (IFMS). While NAP is being implemented for afforestation of degraded forest lands, GIM aims at improving the quality of forest/increase in forest cover besides cross sectoral activities on landscape basis and the IFMS supports the forest protection, development and conservation related activities such as patrolling of the forests, forest fire control, survey and demarcation of forest areas and strengthening of forest infrastructure etc.

The Forest Survey of India (FSI), Dehradun assesses the forest cover of the country at the interval of two years. As per India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2013 & 2015, there is a net increase of 5871 sq. km. in the forest cover as compared to the previous assessment of 2011 and a net increase of 3775 sq. km. over 2013 assessment. The increase in forest cover can be attributed to afforestation, conservation measures, management interventions etc. in the forest area. An amount of Rs. 60 crore under NAP, Rs. 43.25 crore under GIM and Rs. 50.00 crore under IFMS has been allocated for the current year out of which an amount of Rs. 27.99 crore, Rs. 10.94 crore and Rs. 16.37 crore has been released and utilised so far by the Ministry under these three schemes respectively. The details of funds released under these three schemes for the last three years are given in Annexure.

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